TRIAL OF SHAW OPENS MONDAY

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Lying During Probe of JFK Case Alleged

Clay Shaw, declared innocent of conspiring in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, goes back on trial Monday accused of lying to the jury which acquitted him.

The perjury charge was filed by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison on March 3, 1969, two days after Shaw had happily wrung the hands of the 12 Criminal District Court jurors who cleared him.

Neither man has had much comment on the impending new trial.

"Talk to my lawyers," says Shaw. His laywers describe the perjury charge as ridiculous and vindictive. They said the jury at the conspiracy trial, by their verdict, ruled that Shaw's testimony was truthful.

BOOKS WRITTEN

Garrison issued written statements vowing to press on with the case, but he seldom talks with newsmen since Shaw's acquittal — the climactic moment in an investigation which stirred international interest.

However, during the time that Garrison's unusual legal counterpunch has hung fire, delayed by his illness and Shaw's futile appeals for dismissal, both men have been active on the literary front.

The Shaw trial was one that packed the courtroom with newsmen and inspired books. The 6-foot-6 district attorney wrote one himself, Heritage of Stone, although plagued much of the year by a slipped disc which required surgery.

Shaw, a 57-year-old business executive who had retired to enjoy a modest fortune, went on the lecture trail to try to recoup some of his legal expenses and has been writing a play about his trial.

"Books on it already have been done," he said.

LIE ALLEGED

The new chapter opening Monday centers on Garrison's contention that Shaw lied when he testified that he never knew, or so much as laid eyes on Lee Harvey Oswald or David Ferrie, the men named as coconspirators.

Oswald, a former New Orleans resident, was the man named as the lone assassin by the Warren Commission, which said he killed the president with rifle fire from a window as Kennedy was being driven through Dealey Plaza in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Ferrie, a one-time airlines pilot, was an eccentric New Orleans homosexual. He died of a brain hemorrhage on Feb. 22, 1967, during the early stages of Garrison's controversial assassination probe.

Oswald was shot to death in a Dallas police station.

INSISTS ON PLOT

Garrison insisted that the conspiracy to murder President Kennedy originated in New Orleans, with Shaw, Oswald and Ferrie hatching the plot in Ferrie's apartment. He called the Warren Report a fraud.

Shaw's trial on the conspiracy to murder charge lasted 34 days. At the end the jury deliberated less than an hour.

In addition to the subsequent perjury charge, Shaw filed a U.S. district court suit last Jan. 27 for $5 million damages against Garrison and three of the wealthy men who stepped in to help him finance the investigation after he complained that newsmen were checking up on his probe through the public record of his office expenses.

No trial date had been set on the damage suit, leaving still other chapters to come.